

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the claims of the present application are respectfully requested.

Applicants acknowledge, with thanks, the Examiner's remarks concerning the allowability of Claims 3-6, 9, 12 and 30. Of the remaining claims, Claim 10 is objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of Claim 4, and Claims 13 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being allegedly indefinite since the value of 'n' is not defined.

In response to the objection to Claim 10, applicants have cancelled Claim 10 in this response and, as such, the claim objection has been obviated.

With respect to Claims 13 and 31, applicants have deleted the formula from each of the claims which included the variable 'n' and have inserted therefore that the claimed novolacsilane is a reaction product of a *silane-substituted phenol and formalin*. Support for this claim amendment is found at Page 16, lines 9-10 of the originally filed application whereat it is stated that "[A]nother embodiment of the present invention relates to a method of making a novolac polymer by combining a silane-substituted phenol with formalin."

Since the above amendment to Claims 13 and 31 do not introduce new matter into the originally filed application. Entry thereof is respectfully requested. Moreover, applicants submit that the above amendments to Claims 13 and 31 obviate the indefiniteness rejection. As such, the rejection of Claims 13 and 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, has been obviated. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the indefiniteness rejection are thus respectfully requested.

Applicants observe that since Claim 13 is dependent of Claim 3, Claim 13 should also be included in the list of allowable claims. Additionally, since independent Claim 31 includes a cross linking agent which is not present in U.S. Patent No. 5,063,134 mentioned at the bottom of Page 2 of the outstanding Office Action, Claim 31 is also deemed to be allowable and thus should be included in the list of allowable claims.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is firmly believed that the present application is in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Szivos', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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